



## **Innovative Solution for Low Impact Hydropower at Existing Engineered Structures**

Presentation at Hydrokinetic and Wave Energy Technologies  
Technical and Environmental Issues Workshop  
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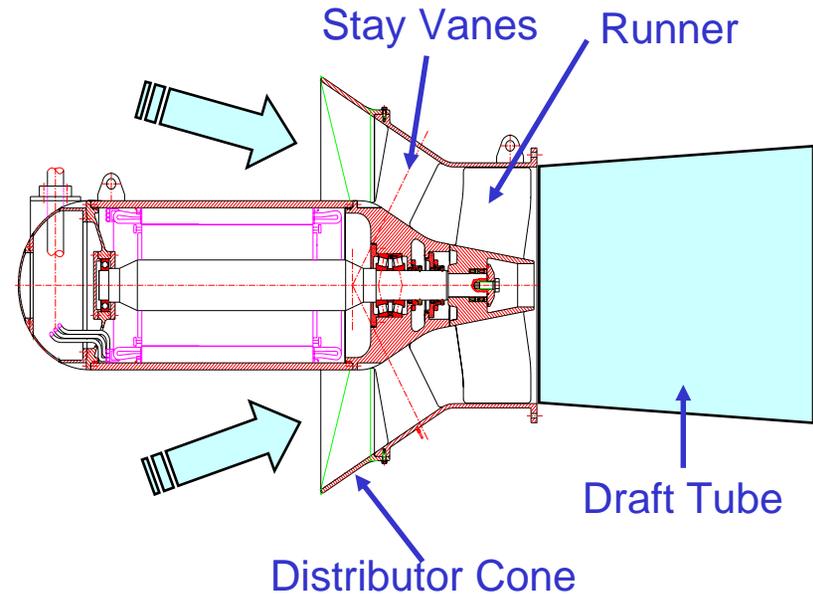
## Topics

- Description of Technology Class & HYDROMATRIX® concept
- Application Criteria
- Development Status
- Reference Applications
- Market Potential – Market Cost
- Development Obstacles



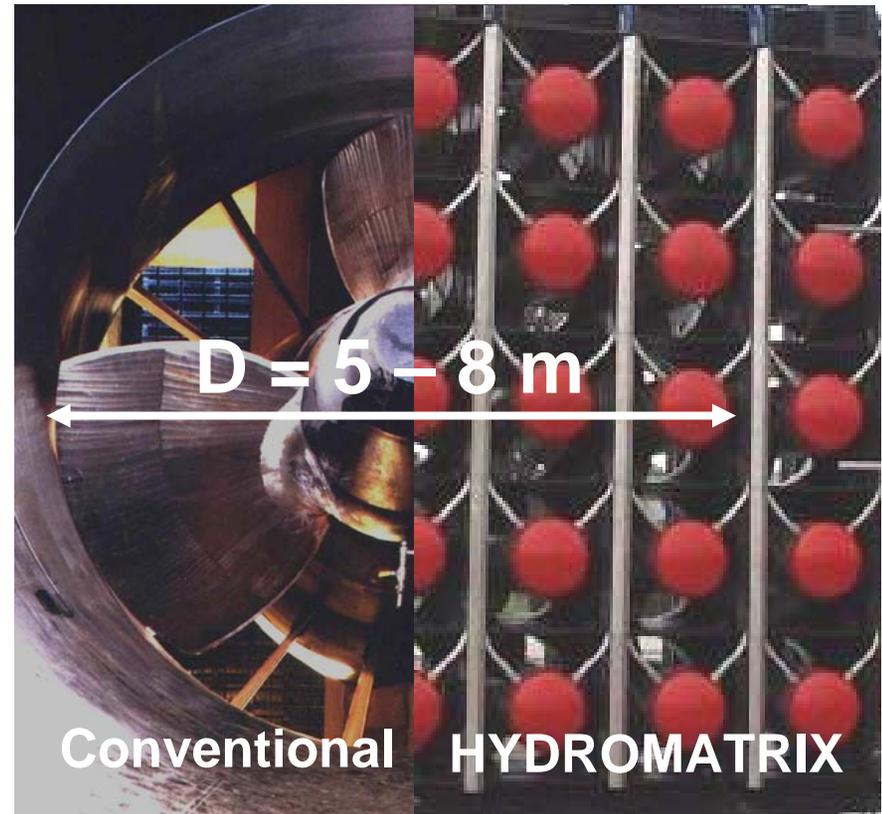
# Axial Type Reaction Turbines

- Inward flow reaction turbine -> water changes pressure as it moves through the turbine and gives up its energy
- Water is directed through the stay vanes and spirals on to a propeller shaped runner, causing it to spin.
- Draft tube helps decelerate the water and recover kinetic energy
- Hydromatrix -> Axial type, fixed blade runners -> no wicket gates and adjustable runner blades !

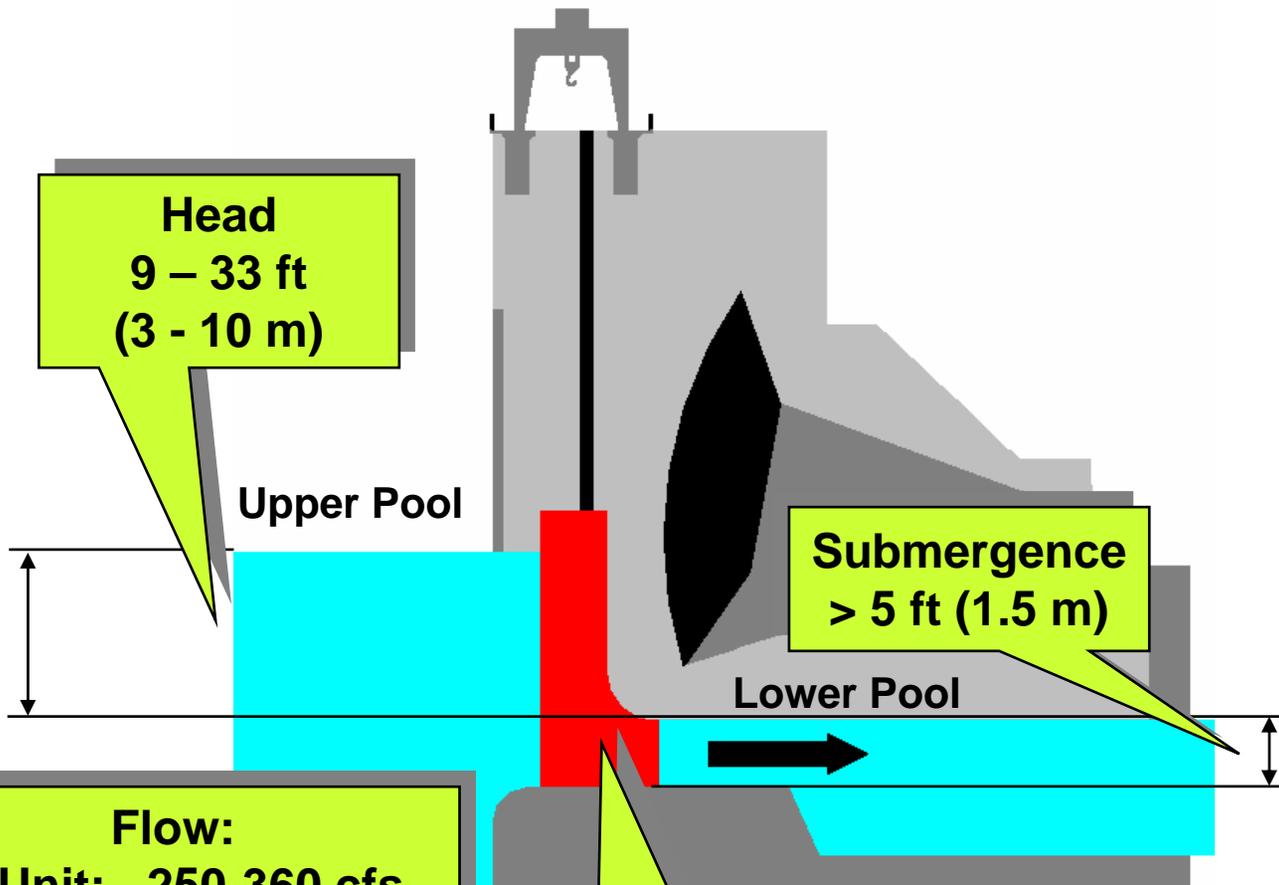


# The HYDROMATRIX<sup>®</sup> Concept

- Many small turbines instead of conventional large size turbines
- Simple and robust turbine and generator design
- Turbines can be lifted out of the water during high flows or flooding
- A solution for low head / high flow sites at existing engineered waterways
- Not a small hydro solution



# Application Range & Criteria



**Head**  
 9 – 33 ft  
 (3 - 10 m)

Upper Pool

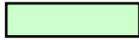
**Submergence**  
 > 5 ft (1.5 m)

Lower Pool

**Flow:**  
 Per Unit: ~ 250-360 cfs  
 (7-10 cms)  
 Total flow > 3,500 cfs  
 (100 cms)

**Unit Output**  
 200 – 700 kW

# HYDROMATRIX® - Development Status



**1980's**

Henry Obermeyer patents Hydromatrix concept in the US  
First 3 MW plant becomes operational in CT

**1990**

VA TECH HYDRO Engineer "reinvents" concept

**1995**

5 MW plant installed in a shiplock at Freudenuau dam, Austria  
Development of Ohio River projects starts

**2000**

30.4 MW Jebel Aulia plant (Sudan) under Contract

**2001**

85 MW Smithland & 88 MW Cannelton plants under Contract

**2003**

First lot of Jebel Aulia in operation  
Design of Smithland project completed & approved

**2004**

700 kW Agonitz Plant commissioned

**2005**

6.55 MW Nussdorf Plant commissioned  
Jebel Aulia Plant (80 Units) completed

# HYDROMATRIX® Potential Applications



**Navigation Dams**  
**Ohio River**



**Jebel Aulia**  
**Irrigation Dams**



**Colebrook**  
**Intake Towers**



**Freudenau**  
**Sluice in Shiplocks**



# HYDROMATRIX® Reference - Intake Tower COLEBROOK / USA

**Client:**

**City of Hartford, CT**

**D = 660 mm**

**n = 900 rpm**

**H = 8 - 35 m**

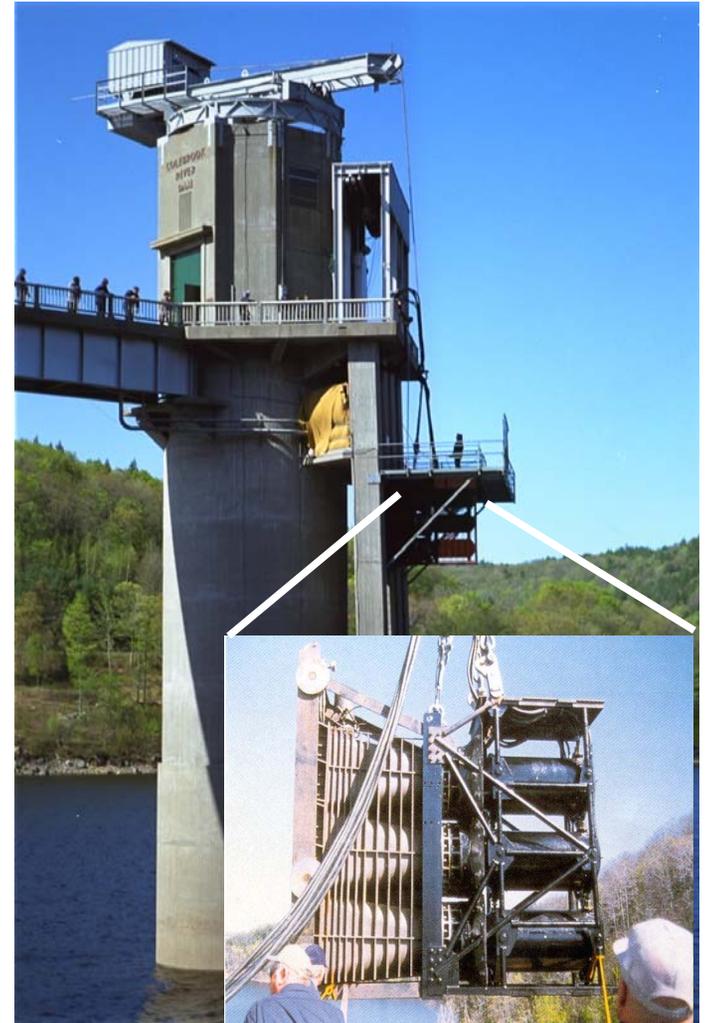
**P<sub>tu</sub> = 500 kW**

**6 Units in 2 Modules**

**P<sub>total</sub> = 3 MW**

**Contract award: 1987**

**Commissioning: 1988**



# HYDROMATRIX® Experience

## Irrigation Dams - Jebel Aulia / Sudan

**Existing irrigation dam  
on the White Nile**

**National Electricity Corp.**

**Contract award: 2000**

**Commissioning:  
Nov 2003 – Nov 2005  
(8 lots)**

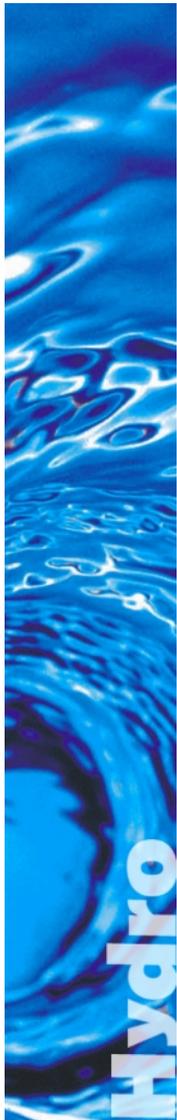
**80 units in 40 modules**

**$P_{tu} = 380 \text{ kW}$**

**$P_{total} = 30.4 \text{ MW}$**

**$D = 1,120 \text{ mm (44 in.)}$**

**$H = 5.5 \text{ m (18 ft)}$**

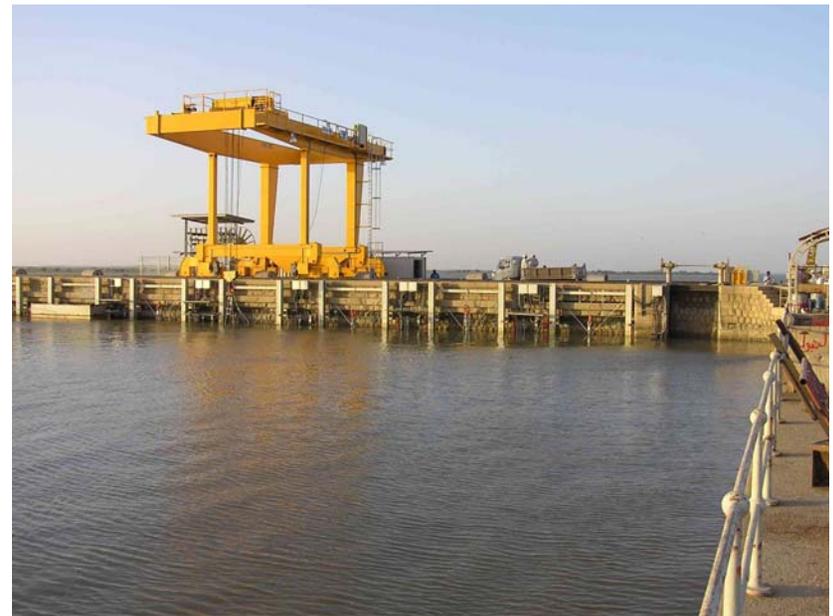




Jebel Aulia - Modules in raised position



TG Unit – Close up



Modules in lowered position

# HYDROMATRIX® Reference Plant Nussdorf

**Existing side canal of the Danube River in central Vienna**

**Customer: VERBUND Austrian Hydro Power AG**

**Contract award: 2004**

**Commissioning: May 2005**

## Technical Data:

Plant Capacity: 6.55 MW

Voltage: 690 V

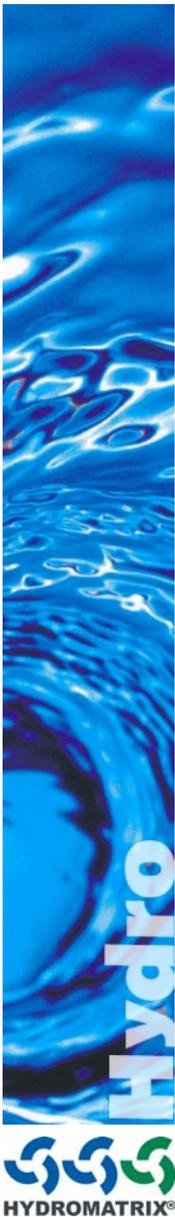
Head: 5.86 m (19.2 ft)

Speed: 336.7 rpm

Runner diameter: 1,320 mm (52")

Annual production: 24.7 GWh



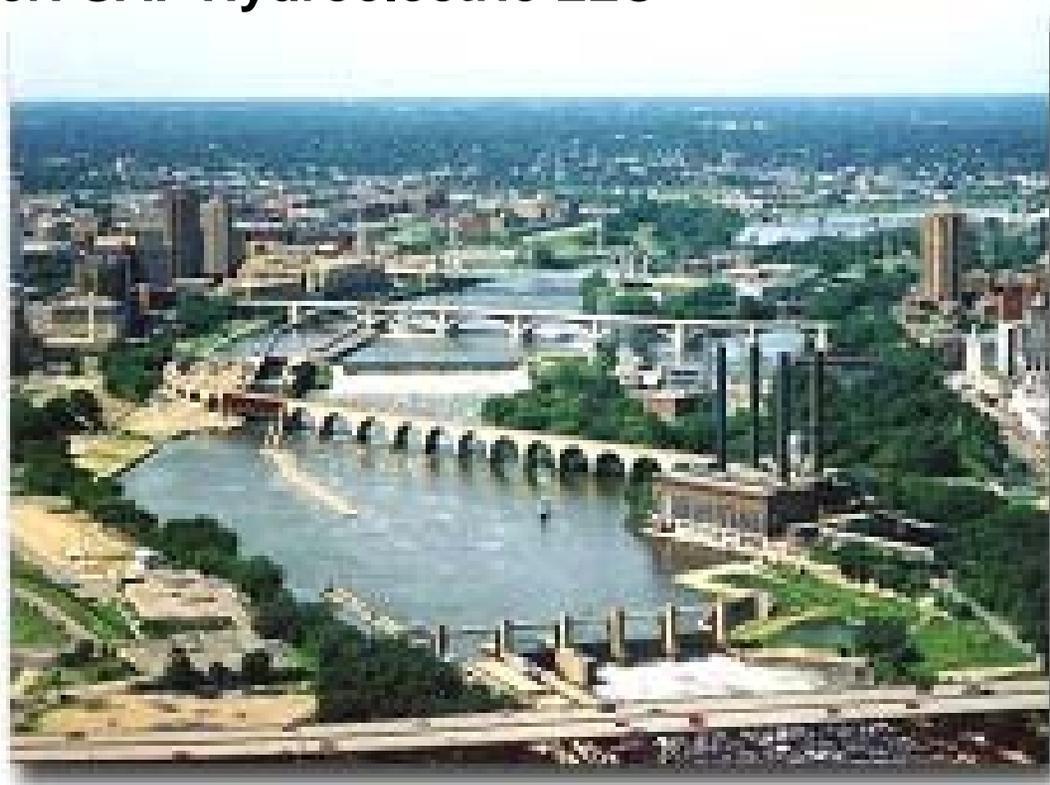


- 100 ft long, 40 ft wide and 23 ft high overflow hollow body weir
- Hydraulically operated spillway gates
- 12 Turbine-generator units
- Operation building

# Lower St. Anthony Falls

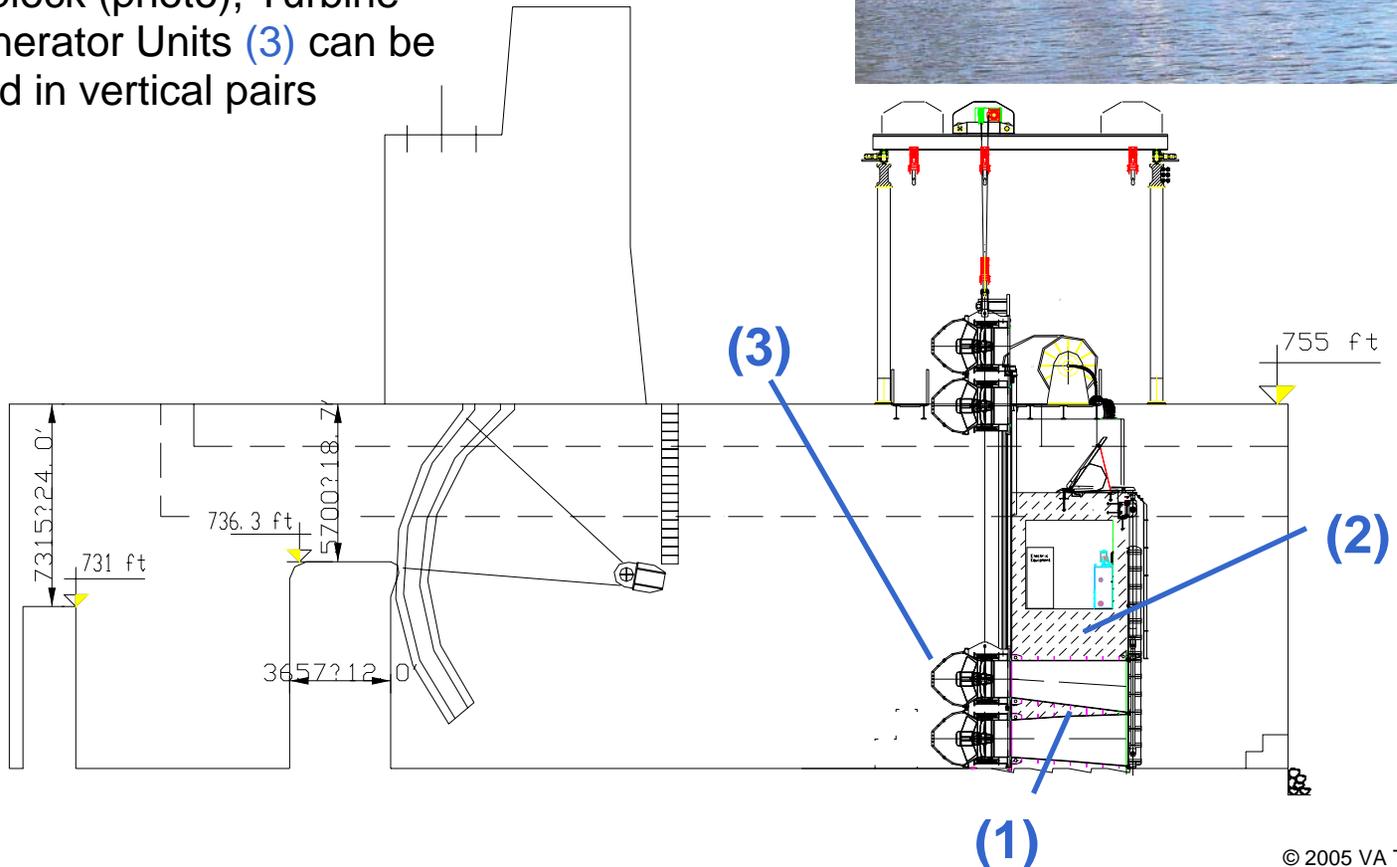
**Lock and Dam on the Mississippi River,  
Minneapolis, MN**

**Customer: SAF Hydroelectric LLC**



# Lower St. Anthony Falls Plant Layout (I)

Drafttubes (1) embedded in retaining wall (2) inside an abandoned auxiliary shiplock (photo), Turbine Generator Units (3) can be lifted in vertical pairs

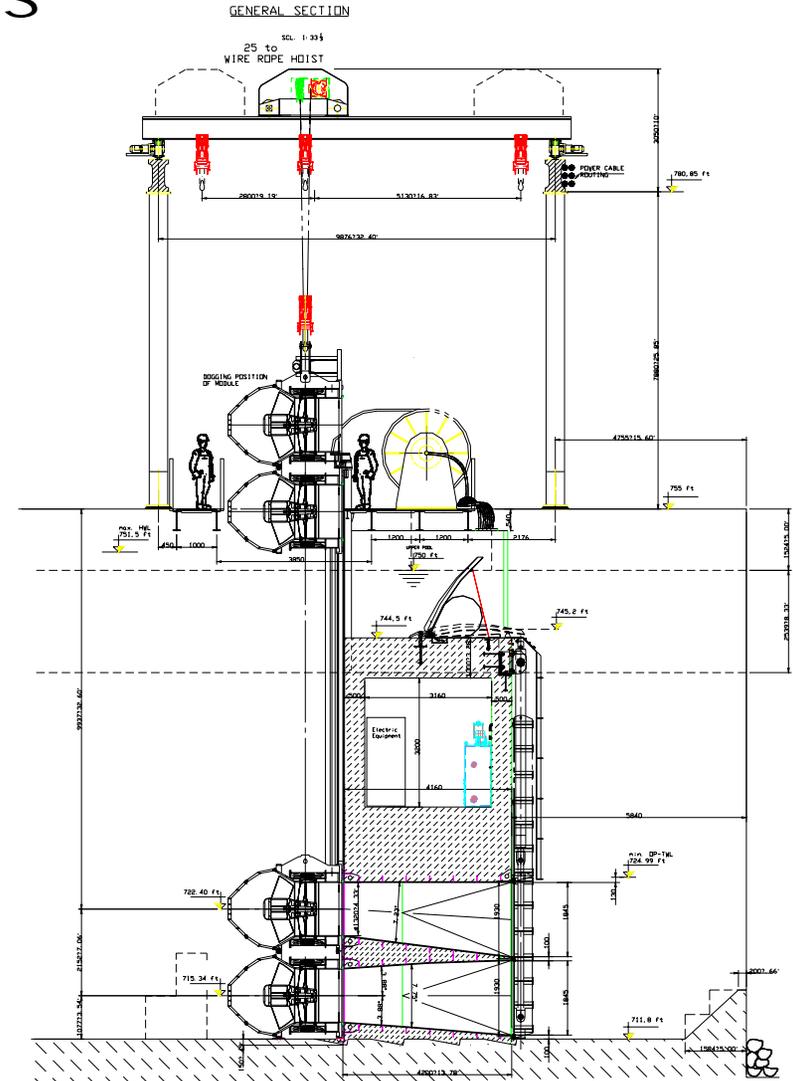


# Lower St. Anthony Falls Plant Layout (II)

## Technical Data:

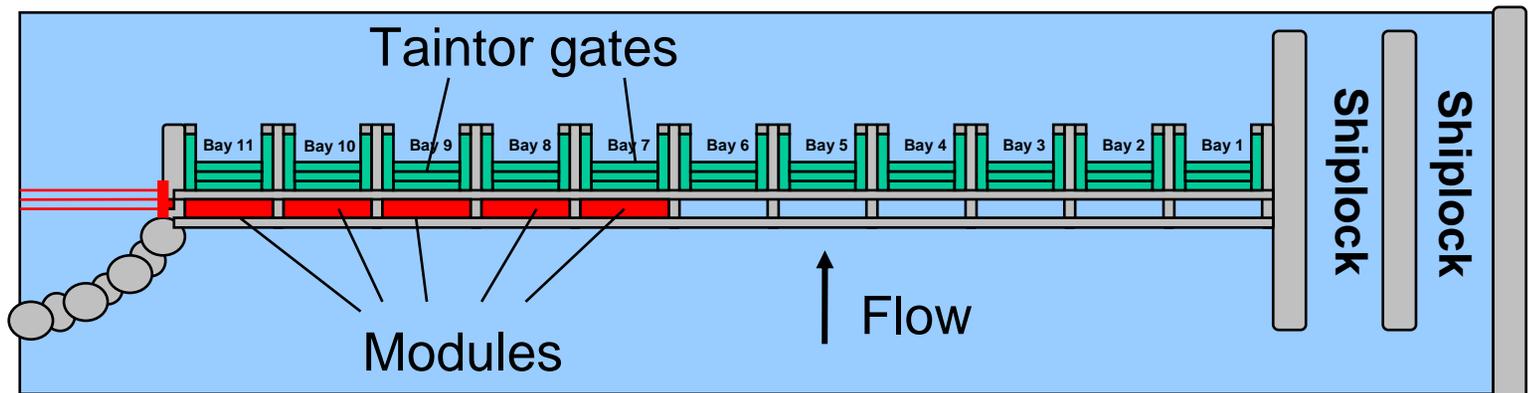
- 16 TG-Units (2 rows of 8)
- Max. Plant Capacity: 10 MW
- Max. Gross Head: 24.9 ft
- Av. Annual Energy Production: 62 GWh

**Project Start:** End 2005  
**Commissioning:** May 2007

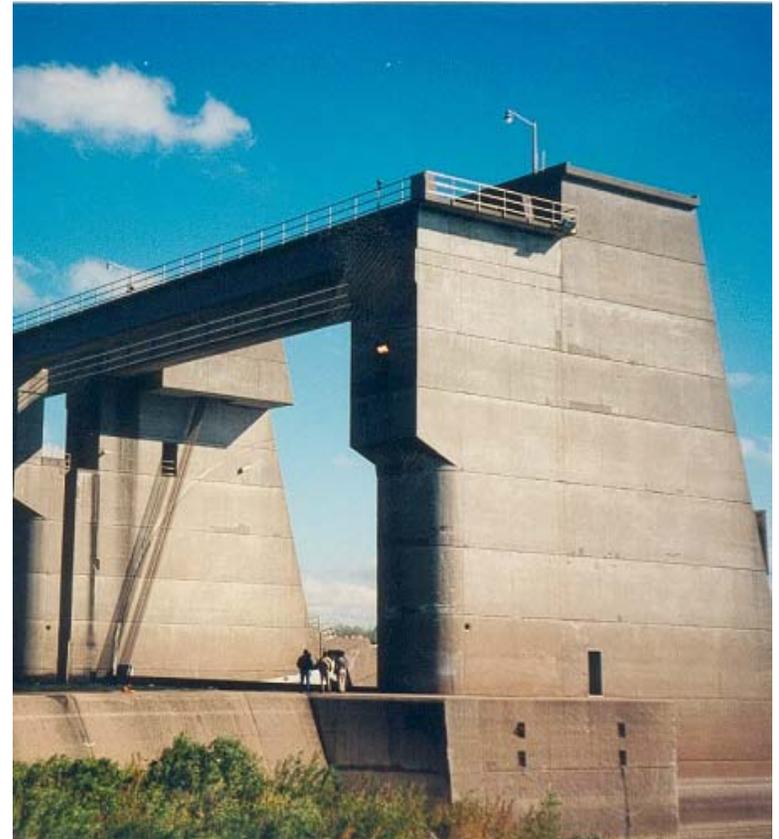
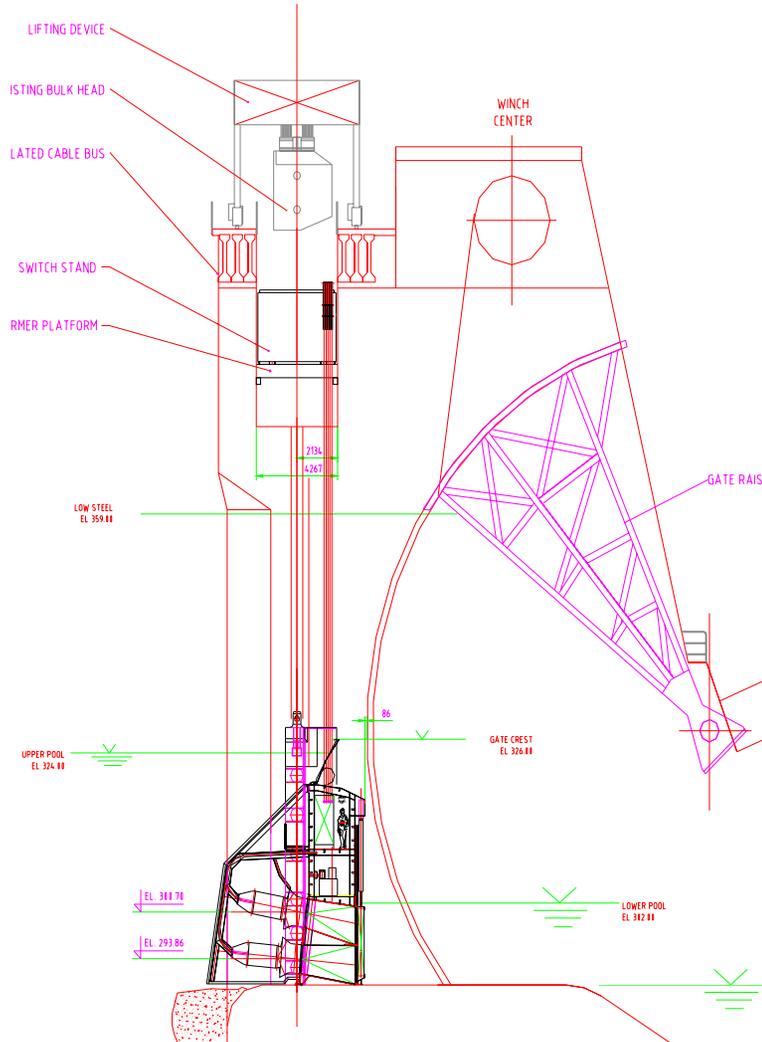


## GENERAL PLAN – SMITHLAND DAM

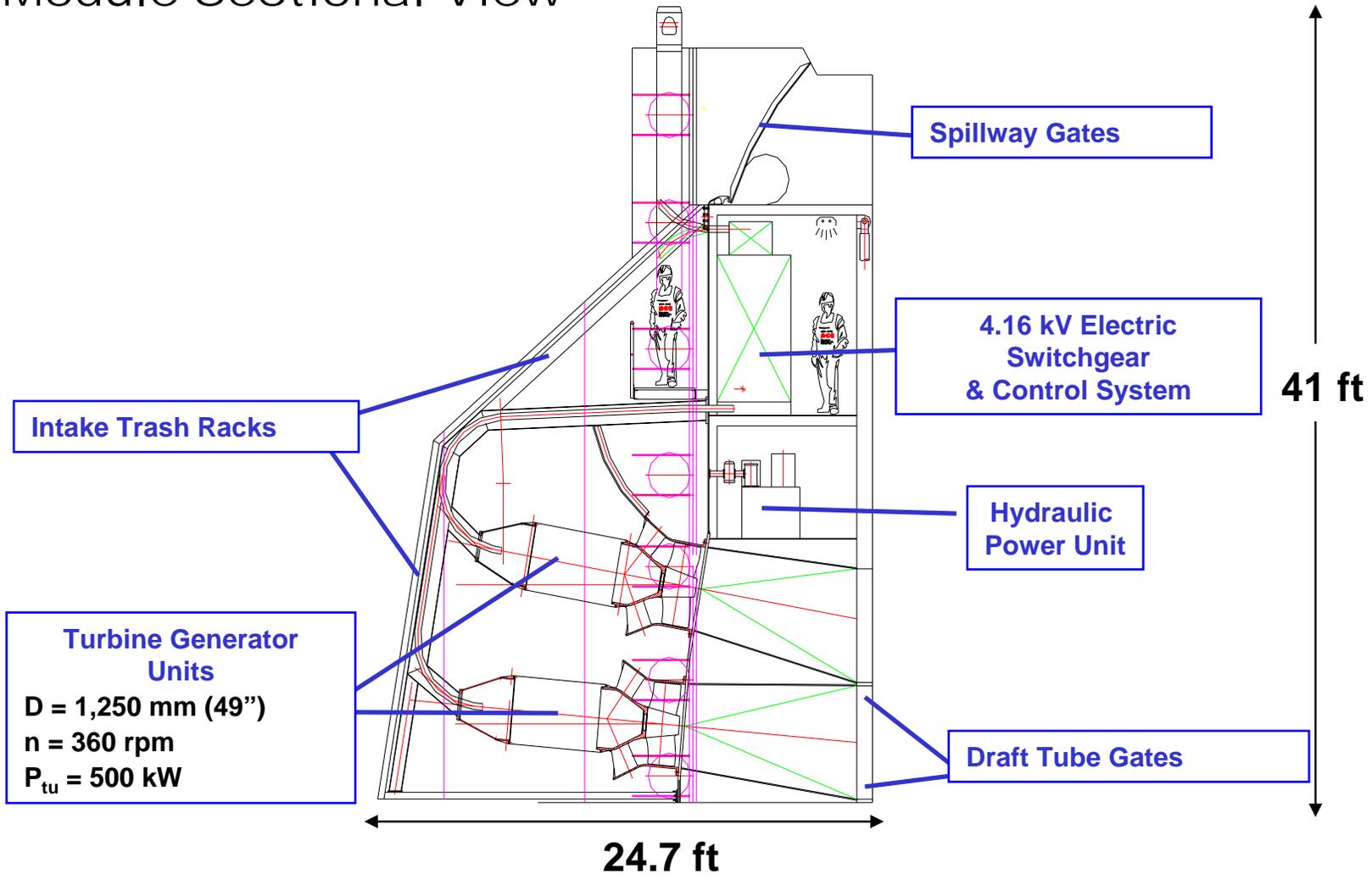
- Installation of movable modules in bulkhead gate slots of five spillway bays
- 170 turbine generator units – rated head 21.3 ft
- Rated plant capacity: 82.7 MW
- Annual energy 327 GWh



# SMITHLAND - Sectional View



# HYDROMATRIX® Module Sectional View



Intake Trash Racks

Spillway Gates

4.16 kV Electric  
Switchgear  
& Control System

41 ft

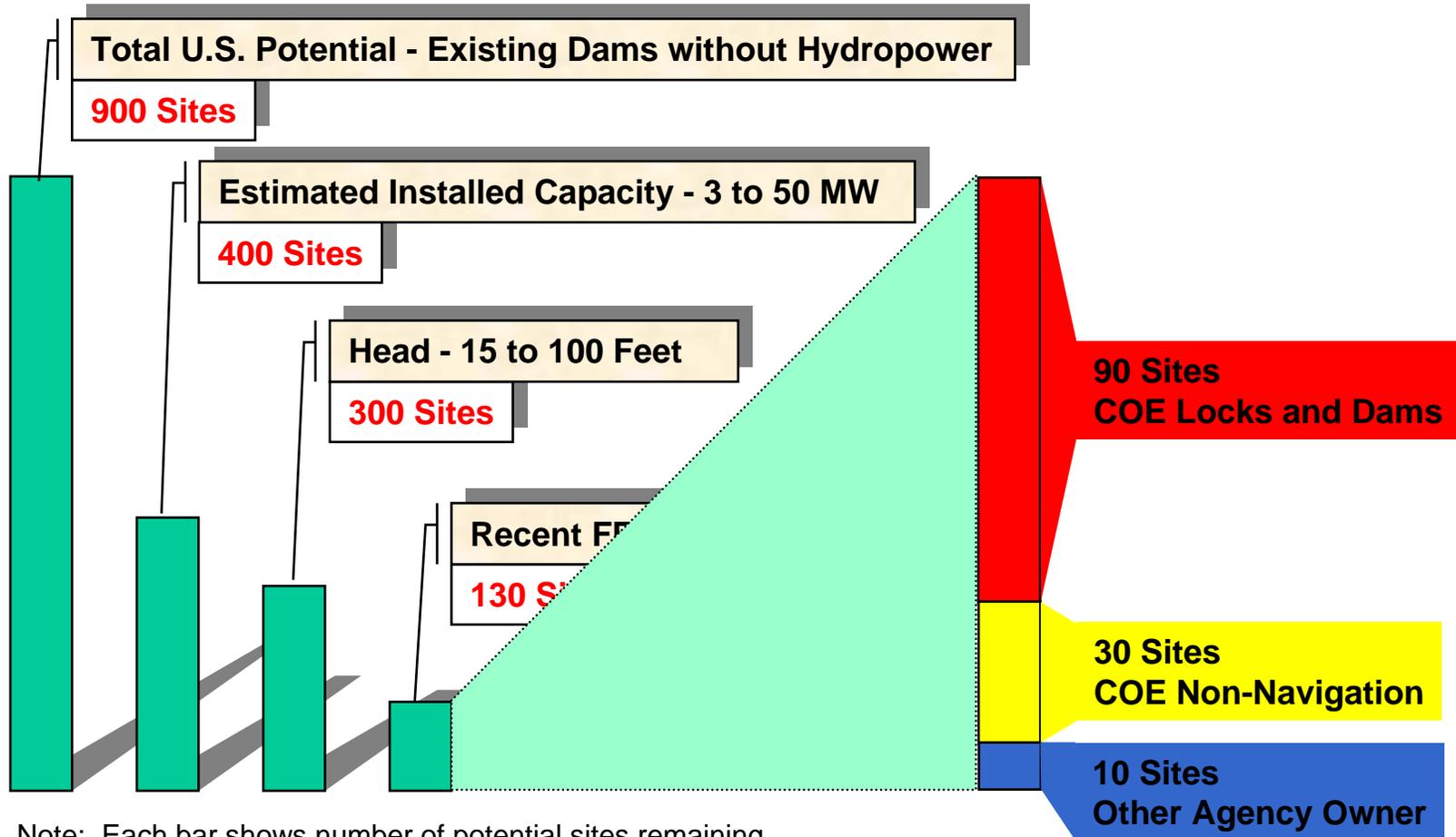
**Turbine Generator  
Units**  
D = 1,250 mm (49")  
n = 360 rpm  
P<sub>tu</sub> = 500 kW

Hydraulic  
Power Unit

Draft Tube Gates

24.7 ft

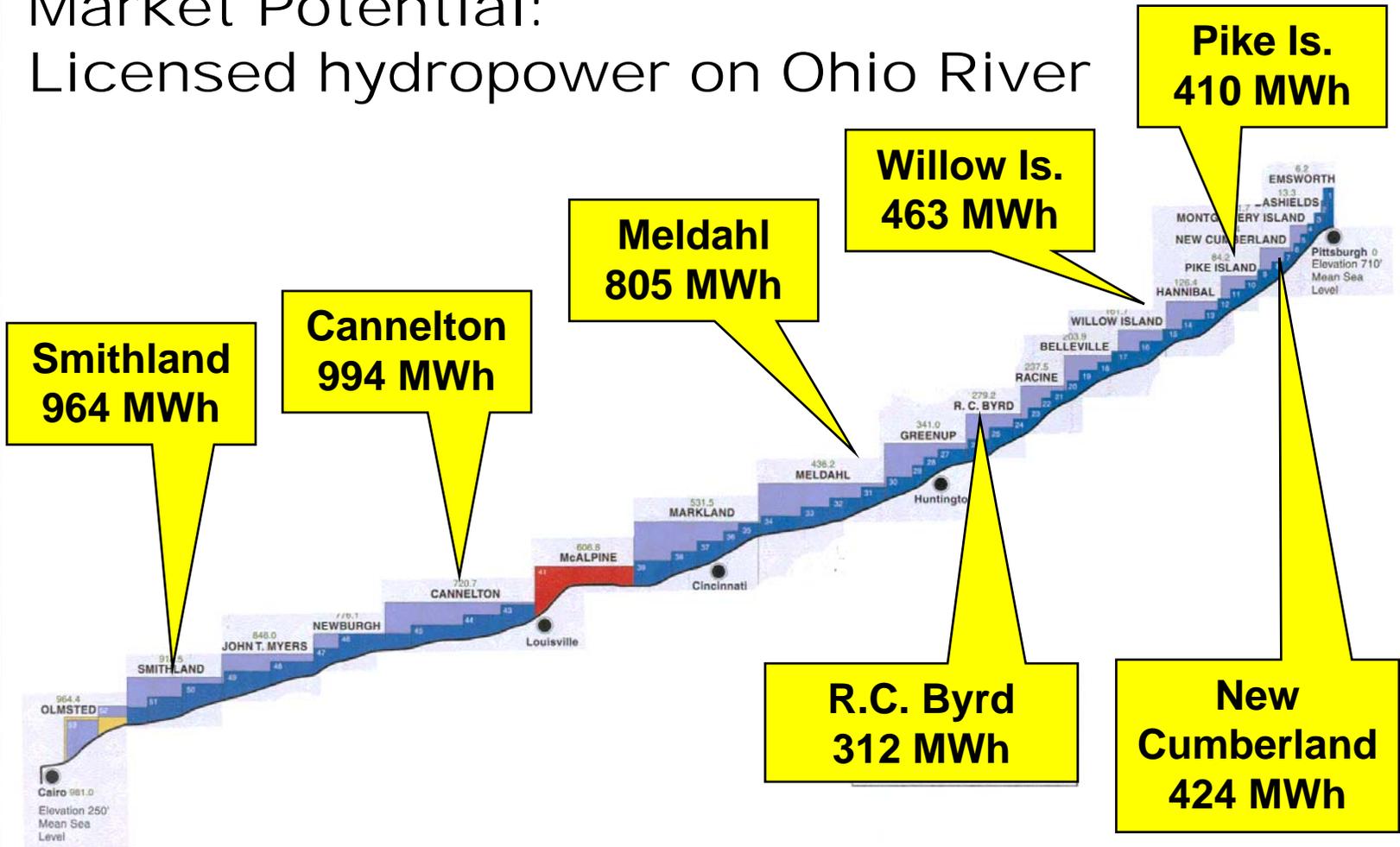
# U.S. Market Potential - Site Selection Process



Note: Each bar shows number of potential sites remaining after "filtering" with stated criteria



# Market Potential: Licensed hydropower on Ohio River



⇒ Total average daily energy: 4,372 MWh

# Energy Capital Cost & Economy Factors<sup>1)</sup>

	<b>At existing structures</b>	<b>At open waterways</b>
<b>Cost per installed kW</b> <b>Cost per kWh</b>	<b>1,500 – 3000</b> <b>&lt; 5 cents / kWh</b>	<b>3,500 – 5000</b>
<b>Typical capacity factor</b>	<b>35 – 75 %</b>	<b>45 – 85 %</b>
<b>Dispatchable</b> <b>Backup power generation needed ?</b>	<b>With restrictions</b> <b>Yes</b>	<b>With restrictions</b> <b>Yes</b>

<sup>1)</sup> Source: Navigant Consulting, Inc., 2005: used by permission



## Obstacles to Project Development...



## Conclusion

- **Proven technologies for reaction type turbines available on the market today**
- **The technologies have to be used in an innovative way to be economically viable**
- **Use of existing engineered structures is key to success**
  - no / minimal civil construction cost
  - no geological risk, no civil contracting risk
  - no additional land usage, low addtl. impact on environment
- **Technologies have to address concerns and requirements of major stakeholders**
- **Power industry looks for simple and reliable designs to minimize operation and maintenance cost**
- **Short project schedule is more important than low equipment cost**



# Stakeholders in the Development Process

